# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3187
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2002
ORGANIC FARMING
S. SAIDUZZAMAN

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether nearly 60% pesticides in India are used for cotton inspite of the failure of pesticides to protect cotton from pests;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to support efforts of Non-GovernmentalOrganisation (NGOs) to promote organic farming; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Lone dependence on use of pesticides for the control of cotton pests over the years gave rise to resistance in pests to pesticides, resurgence of pests, destruction of natural enemies of pests, minor pests became major pests which ultimately lead to failure of pesticides against cotton pests. Hence, effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM)package of practices havebeen developed to control cotton pests in a most economical and eco-friendly way. Central and State Government are advocating IPM to cotton farmers which resulted in need based judicious use of pesticides. However, still overall use of pesticides in cotton is about 52%.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A National Project on organic farming is proposed during X Plan to provide financial assistance to different agencies including NGOs for the following components:-

i) Setting upf commercial production units of fruit and vegetables waste compost units, bio-fertilizer production units and hatcheries for vermiculture as back ended capital subsidy through NABARD/NCDC.
ii) Capacity building for promotion of organic farming as service providers;
iii) Training programmes;
iv) Creation of knowledge based data bank; and
v) Creating National awareness.